

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 XMB-02 EB-08 ICAE-00 PA-01
OMB-01 TRSE-00 COME-00 AID-05 SP-02 INRE-00
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 L-03 H-01 SS-15 NSCE-00
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DRAFTED BY ARA/ECA:JNBUMPUS:JMA
APPROVED BY ARA/ECA:RWZIMMERMANN
HA/PRS:KBROWN (INFO)
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 183947

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AR, ETRD, EIND, EFIN

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE ON EXIM BANK DENIAL OF
LETTER OF INTEREST.

1. FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE CONCERNING EXIM BANK HAS
BEEN APPROVED FOR USE BY DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN:

Q: HAS THE ADMINISTRATION CUT OFF EXPORT-IMPORT
TRANSACTIONS WITH ARGENTINA?

A: THAT QUESTION SHOULD BE REFERRED TO EXIM. HOWEVER,
I CAN TELL YOU THAT IN CONFORMANCE WITH THE
STATUTORY REQUIREMENT, THE EXPORT-IMPORT BANK
CONSULTED WITH THE DEPARTMENT WITH RESPECT TO THE
PENDING APPLICATION BY ALLIS-CHALMERS FOR ARGENTINE
PROJECTS AT THIS TIME. WE RECOMMENDED TO THE
EXPORT-IMPORT BANK AGAINST PROCEEDING WITH THE
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TRANSACTION IN THE ABSENCE OF SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENTS
IN THE ARGENTINE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION.

DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS HAVE ADVISED THEIR ARGENTINE
COUNTERPARTS THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS A SINCERE
DESIRE FOR IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH THE ARGENTINE
GOVERNMENT BUT THE PERSISTENCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

PROBLEMS TROUBLES US DEEPLY. THESE PROBLEMS INCLUDE:
NUMEROUS DETAINEES BEING HELD WITHOUT CHARGES, THE
DISAPPEARANCES OF INDIVIDUALS, WHO IN THE PAST HAVE
INCLUDED CHURCHMEN, LABOR LEADERS AND MEMBERS OF HUMAN
RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS, AND THE FAILURE OF THE GOVERN-
MENT OF ARGENTINA TO WORK OUT WITH THE INTER AMERICAN
COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE TERMS
FOR A VISIT TO ARGENTINA.

THE DEPARTMENT WILL CONTINUE TO REVIEW CLOSELY OUR
POLICIES REGARDING ARGENTINA IN THE HOPE THAT MEASURABLE
IMPROVEMENT IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION THERE WILL
ALLOW THE US GOVERNMENT TO ADOPT A MORE FORTHCOMING
ATTITUDE IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

2. QUESTION HAS NOT BEEN ASKED AT PRESS BRIEFING. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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To: BUENOS AIRES
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